



PATENT
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: B0751/7033

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Christopher T. Zirps et al.
Serial No.: 10/656,083
Filed: September 5, 2003
For: ENDOSCOPIC BAND LIGATOR
Examiner: Gary Jackson
Art Unit: 3731

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 30, 2004.

Julie A. Bowen
Signature

Julie A. Bowen
Name (please print)

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the applicant requests consideration of this information disclosure statement.

Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This information disclosure statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits in the above-identified application. No fee or certification is believed required. If a fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1721.

Information Cited

The applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the relative importance of the references.

Remarks

It is respectfully requested that:

- The examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
- The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
- The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

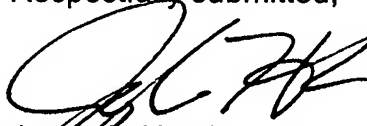
By submitting this information disclosure statement, the applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this information disclosure statement, the applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this information disclosure statement, the applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

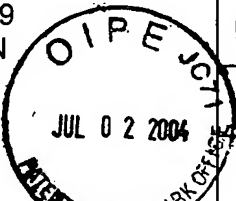
It is understood by applicant that the foregoing information will be considered and, to the extent deemed appropriate by the examiner, will be reflected in the examiner's communication.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JCH', is written over the printed name of Joyce C. Hersh.

Joyce C. Hersh
Reg. No. 42,890
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP
75 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
Tel: (617) 261-3100
Customer No.: 022832
Attorneys for Applicants

Date: June 30, 2004

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		Docket No.: B0751/7033	Serial No. 10/656,083
		Applicant: Christopher T. Zirps	
		Filed: September 5, 2003	Group: 3731

U.S. Patent Documents							
Ex.		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filed
		6,576,005	06/2003	Geitz			
		D459,474	06/2002	Bratt et al.			
		6,306,081	10/2001	Ishikawa et al.			
		2001/0027312	10/2001	Bacher et al.			
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		5,690,645	11/1997	Van Erp			
		D385,350	10/1997	Furnish			
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		D383,539	09/1997	Croley			
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		5,601,568	02/1997	Chevillon et al.			
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		D344,334	02/1994	Dulebohn et al.			
		5,275,151	01/1994	Shockey et al.			
		5,259,366	11/1993	Reydel et al.			

Examiner:	Date considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



U.S. Patent Documents

Ex.		Doc. No.	Filing/ Publication Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filed
		D480,807	10/14/03	Yardan et al.			
		2003/0167062	09/04/03	Gambale et al.			
		2003/0171651	09/11/03	Page et al.			
		2003/0171760	09/11/03	Gambale			
		2003/0208209	11/06/03	Gambale et al.			
		2004/0034371	02/19/04	Lehman et al.			
		10/656,083	09/05/03	Zirps et al.			
		10/656,085	09/05/03	Zirps et al.			
		10/656,557	09/05/03	Zirps et al.			
		10/658,135	09/08/03	Aznoian et al.			
		10/658,619	09/08/03	Gambale et al.			
		10/847,190	05/17/04	Gambale et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ex.		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including, Author, Title, Date, Pages, Etc.)

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Examiner:

Date considered

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